

From: DMS MILITARY AWARDS BR(uc)
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MSGID/GENADMIN/CDRPERSCOM AG ALEXANDRIA VA//
RMKS/FROM: THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE ARMY

A. AR 600-8-22, Military Awards, 25 Feb 95.

B. DoD 1348.33-M, Manual of Military Decorations and Awards, Sep 1996.

C. Headquarters, Department of the Army Letter 600-04-3, 7 Jul 04.

D. HQ, USA HRC Message, DTG 17 Mar 04, Subj: Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal-Implementing Instructions.

1. General George W. Casey, Jr., Commanding General (CG) of Multi National Force-Iraq (MNF-I) is delegated authority to award the Silver Star (SS) and lesser decorations to U.S. and foreign military personnel assigned, attached or OPCON to MNF-I. Additionally, GEN Casey is authorized to further delegate to Lieutenant General Thomas F. Metz, Commander of Multi National Corps-Iraq (MNC-I); authority to award the SS and lesser decorations (except Legion of Merit (LM)) for U.S. and foreign military personnel assigned, attached or OPCON to MNC-I; and authority to award the Bronze Star Medal (BSM) and lesser decorations for U.S. military personnel to Major General (MG) commanders, or Brigadier Generals (BG) in a MG commander position. General Casey is also delegated authority to award the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB), Combat Medical Badge (CMB), and Purple Heart (PH); with further delegation as defined in paragraphs 3 and 4 below.

2. In accordance with paragraphs 7-14 and 7-15 of Ref A, General Casey is authorized to award the Valorous Unit Award (VUA) and Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) to Brigades, Battalions, and smaller or comparable units under his command. Awards of the VUA to Headquarters, and Headquarters and Headquarters Companies of Divisions and higher or comparable units must be forwarded to the U.S. Army Human Resources Command (USA, HRC) for processing. This authority will not be further delegated. Copies of all approved unit awards (certificates, citations and orders) will be forwarded to USA, HRC for confirmation in the Department of the Army General Orders and to the U.S. Army Center of Military History, ATTN: DAMH-FPO, 103 Third Avenue, Fort McNair, DC 20319-5058 for update of unit's lineage and honors.

3. The authority to award Army decorations (except LM) to members of the Armed Forces of friendly foreign nations is authorized for award to Colonel (COL), or equivalent, and below only. All Army award recommendations of the LM must be forwarded to Cdr, USA, HRC (AHRC-PDO-PA) for processing. Additionally, appropriate clearances (as outlined in Ref B) must be received prior to approval of award recommendations.

4. General Casey may delegate to Army commanders in the ranks of COL and above the authority to award the Army Commendation Medal, CIB and CMB to U.S. military personnel under their command.

5. General Casey may delegate to commanders in the rank of BG and above who have troops committed

to the combat operation authority to award the PH to Soldiers who are wounded as the direct result of enemy action. Requests that cannot be determined by the field will be forwarded through MNF-I to USA, HRC (AHRC-PDO-PA) for decision.

6. General Casey is authorized to delegate disapproval authority to subordinate commanders, provided those subordinate commanders have approval authority for the next lower award.

7. Recommendations for award of the Presidential Unit Citation, Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross and Distinguished Service Medal will be forwarded through CG, MNF-I to USA, HRC (AHRC-PDO-PA) for further processing.

8. The Army Superior Unit Award, Meritorious Service Medal and Army Achievement Medal are peacetime awards and will not be awarded for service in the wartime theater of operations.

9. Authority to award the CIB and CMB as authorized by paragraphs 8-6 and 8-7 of Ref A and in Ref C. The CIB may be awarded only to Infantry and Special Forces officers and enlisted Soldiers (other than Special Forces medics) who satisfactorily perform Infantry or Special Forces duties in active ground combat. The CMB may be awarded to medical personnel who accompany Infantry, Special Forces, Armor or ground Cavalry Soldiers in active ground combat. Effective 11 Sep 01, the CMB policy has changed to allow award to medical personnel assigned or attached to or under operational control of any ground Combat Arms units (not to include members assigned or attached to Aviation units) of Brigade or smaller size. Medical personnel who satisfactorily perform medical duties while the unit is engaged in actual ground combat qualify for the CMB, provided they are personally present and under fire. Battle participation credit alone will not be the basis for award of the CIB or the CMB.

10. Award of the CIB and CMB for operations in Iraq fall under the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) era. Therefore, only one award of the CIB or CMB is authorized for participation in Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). For example, a Soldier who earned the CIB or CMB for OEF will not be awarded a second award for OIF. Currently, GWOT is the 4th conflict qualifying for award of the CIB and CMB. The Vietnam era (3d conflict to qualify for the CIB and CMB) was officially terminated on 10 Mar 95. The Vietnam era includes the Vietnam conflict; El Salvador; Grenada; Panama; Persian Gulf War; and Somalia. Wear of the second, third and fourth awards of the CIB are indicated by superimposing 1, 2, and 3 stars respectively, centered at the top of the badge between the points of the oak wreath. Wear of the second, third and fourth awards of the CMB are indicated by superimposing 1, 2, and 3 stars respectively, centered at the top and bottom of the badge.

11. To preserve the integrity of the Army awards program and to ensure meaningful recognition for truly deserving Soldiers, special care should be exercised so that military decorations for meritorious and valorous achievement or service are only approved for those Soldiers who truly distinguish themselves from among their comrades by exceptional performance in combat or in support of combat operations.

12. Awards presented in recognition of service for valor and achievement must be accurately recorded so that data may be captured for historical and policy evaluation purposes. The number of decorations awarded will be included in a monthly report indicating awards presented by category (valor, service, or achievement), by command (Corps level), and by component (Active, Reserve, and National Guard). Also a by-name alphabetical listing of all valor awards should be included. The initial report will be submitted by 15 Sep 04, covering the period 6 Aug 04 through 31 Aug 04, and will be submitted monthly thereafter NLT the 15th of the following month. The report should also include the number of combat badges and PHs awarded in connection with the operation. Reports will be provided to MNF-I DCSPER for consolidation and forwarding to USA, HRC.

13. In order to account for high level valor awards, copies of all approved SS certificates, citations and orders will be forwarded monthly to MNF-I DCSPER for consolidation and forwarding to USA, HRC.

14. The authority to award wartime awards will be reviewed regularly as the tactical situation dictates and

automatically terminates 180 days after completion of combat operations. Further delegation will be authorized if deemed appropriate by the Army leadership. Commanders delegated wartime awards approval authority by General Casey will retain that authority only while they remain in the theater of operations. Upon re-deployment, commanders will have 90 days to complete all awards that were put in to channels prior to termination of wartime awards approval authority. After that time, wartime award recommendations will be forwarded through the unit's peacetime chain of command to USA, HRC for processing.

15. A follow-on message will provide additional instructions on authorized campaign participation credit and campaign streamers. However, it is advised that MNF-I maintain deployment orders and/or records of all units deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (11 Sep 01 to a date to be determined) in order to submit required documentation for campaign participation credit.

16. Wartime award will not be made to a member of another military service without concurrence from the military department concerned. The necessary concurrences will be requested by forwarding the approved DA Form 638 directly to the Headquarters of that service.

17. Requests for Assault Landing Credit, Combat Infantry Streamers, and Combat Medical Streamers must be processed in accordance with Ref A.

18. Implementing instructions for the GWOT Expeditionary Medal and the GWOT Service Medal can be found in Ref D.

19. For clarification of guidance provided, contact the Military Awards Branch at awards@hoffman.army.mil or visit the website at <https://www.perscomonline.army.mil/tagd/awards/index.htm>.

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